



## Barbara Lee Perry ("Babs")

June 18, 1948 - June 28, 2025

Barbara Lee "Babs" Perry, 77, of Stevensville, Maryland, passed away peacefully on June 28, 2025, surrounded by her loving family.

Born on June 18, 1948, in San Francisco, California, Babs was the daughter of Lt. Colonel William J. Lee and Agnes D. Lee. As the daughter of an Army officer, she spent her childhood living in many places across the country before graduating as valedictorian from Regina Dominican High School in Chicago in 1966. She went on to earn her bachelor's degree in English from The College of William & Mary in 1970.

That same year, Babs married and started a family, eventually settling in Maryland, a place she called home for 47 years and grew to love deeply, especially the beauty of the water.

Babs dedicated much of her career to the insurance industry, including many years at Nationwide and culminating at the Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund, from which she retired in 2004. Her early retirement marked the beginning of her most cherished role: grandmother. Caring for her granddaughters brought her immeasurable joy and fulfillment.

A natural leader and community member, Babs generously gave her time and talents to many organizations. She held leadership positions with the

Insurance Women of Maryland, the Kent Island Yacht Club, and volunteered her time as a mentor with Queen Anne's County schools, sharing her wisdom and passion for helping others.

Babs was an amazing cook, she enjoyed preparing and sharing meals with her family and friends. Her kitchen was always a welcoming place where laughter and stories were shared over delicious food and a good glass of wine.

She and her husband, Lamar, shared a love for boating and spent countless happy days together on the Chesapeake Bay, embracing the beauty and peace of life on the water.

Babs is survived by her beloved husband of 40 years, Lamar Perry; her son, Chad Atwell and his wife, Amanda; her daughter, Kimberly Atwell Drinker; her granddaughters, Kendall and Avery Drinker; her brother, Bill Lee and his wife, Mary; and many dear friends and extended family.

She will be remembered for her warmth and humor, her unwavering support for those she loved, her gift for storytelling, and her ability to bring people together around the table.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, July 19 at 11:00 a.m. at Fellows, Helfenbein, and Newnam Funeral Home, located at 106 Shamrock Rd, Chester MD 21619. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made in Babs' honor to Compass Regional Hospice (<https://compassregionalhospice.org>).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUL 19. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein, & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A.  
106 Shamrock Road  
Chester, MD 21619

# Tribute Wall



“ I shared many classes with Babs at Regina in the 60s. She was always friendly, interested in others, and good humored. Many fond memories of her.

Mary Shelley Hough  
St Martin de Gurson  
France

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Mary Shelley - September 10, 2025 at 12:22 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Barbara Lee Perry ("Babs").



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July 18, 2025 at 01:32 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Barbara Lee Perry ("Babs").

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July 18, 2025 at 01:32 AM



“ Lorraine, Angie, Christina and Cathy purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Barbara Lee Perry ("Babs").



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Lorraine, Angie, Christina and Cathy - July 15, 2025 at 02:52 PM

LC

“ Lorraine, Angie, Christina and Cathy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Barbara Lee Perry ("Babs").

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Lorraine, Angie, Christina and Cathy - July 15, 2025 at 02:52 PM



“ Pink Potpourri Bouquet was purchased for the family of Barbara Lee Perry ("Babs").



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July 14, 2025 at 09:53 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Barbara Lee Perry ("Babs").

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July 14, 2025 at 09:53 AM

JM

“ My relationship with Babs has spanned more than 30 years. I simply can't believe she's gone and miss her beyond words.

*We first met when she was my boss at Maryland Automobile Insurance Fund. Intimidated by her at first, I quickly learned that Babs was a font of knowledge, not only about insurance but also about how to be successful as a woman in a male dominated business environment. She had the respect of the executives as well as the people who worked for her. She was a mentor for so many of us.*

*We became personal friends after I was no longer in her management group. Having been divorced herself, she took me under her wing during my own divorce and helped me through that difficult time. She graciously accepted my late night phone calls when I was distraught and never failed to offer sound advice. More importantly, she included me and my teen-aged son in her many social gatherings and boating trips on the Chesapeake Bay which lifted our spirits beyond words. Always generous, she funded trips to New York City to see Broadway shows, eat at wonderful restaurants and tour the city in a way I would never have experienced on my own.*

*Over the years, we've been there to support each other through life's challenges. I moved away from Maryland several years ago but we talked on the phone at least once each week and visited each other often.*

*Mentor, advisor, sounding board, source of wonderful recipes, like a big sister, and most importantly, the very best of friends... Babs was a source of wisdom and comfort. I hope I was the same for her.*

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Joanne McCoog - July 02, 2025 at 10:26 PM

CB



**Christina Blake** - July 03, 2025 at 08:36 AM

KD

*This is beautiful, Jo. She loved you and was so grateful for your friendship ❤️*

**Kimberly Drinker** - July 03, 2025 at 09:26 AM

WL

*There are people who leave footprints on your heart, and Babs was one of them. Babs had a heart as full as her recipe box and a mind as rich as the stories she loved to read. Though she's no longer here in the way we wish, her spirit lives on – in the memories we have, the lessons she shared with us, and the love she gave. We carry her with us always.*

*Bill Lee*

**William Lee** - July 04, 2025 at 04:21 PM